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L

KINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

Herefordshire

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Joint  
ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
and of the  
Public Health Inspector  
for the year 1967


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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1967)

J.K. Dawson	Chairman of the Council
D.J. Owens	Vice-Chairman of the Council to October, 1967.
J.E.A. Deacon	Vice-Chairman of the Council from 23rd October.
R.D. Bailey	
P.H. Briggs	Chairman of the Finance & Planning Committee
W.W.E. Cole	
E.L. Gregory	
D.W. Harvey	
T.R. James	Chairman of the Development Committee
J.H. Langston	
R.A. Lowe	
B.M. Pennell	Chairman of the General Purposes Committee
E.R. Smith	
Miss L. Stephens	
H.B. Vaughan	

Clerk of the Council: R.A. Davies (to 31.11.67)

Mrs. D.M. Branston (from 1.12.67)



To the Chairman and Members of the Kington Urban  
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1967, together with the report of the Public Health Inspector.

This year we have lost the excellent services of Mr. Allen as Public Health Inspector; my thanks are due to him for all the work he has done over the past years.

I am glad to welcome Mr. N.J. Arney in his place and wish him well. He has written the section in the report on the past year's activities of the department.

I have little to comment upon in my report except to note, with satisfaction, that 1967 was the second year in which there were no infant deaths in the district. This is sufficient comment on the medical and nursing services provided in the town.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Westfield Walk,

LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

L. ALLEN, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned December 1967)

N.J. ARNEY, C.R.S.H., A.I.A.S. (Ret'd), (Appointed January 1968)

Building Surveyor and Public Health Inspector,

2, Mill Street,

KINGTON

(Telephone: Kington 202)

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) .. .. .	857
Estimated mid-year home population .. .. .	1,900
Average number of persons per acre .. .. .	2.2
Number of inhabited houses .. .. .	689
Average number of inhabited houses per acre .. .. .	0.8
Average number of persons per house .. .. .	2.8
Rateable value .. .. .	£64,682
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .. .. .	£249

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	14	17	31
Illegitimate	2	2	4
	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>35</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 1.13	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Kington U.D. (Crude)	18.4	16.8	19.3	15.2	16.5
" " (Adjusted)	20.8	18.9	21.8	17.2	18.6
England and Wales	17.2	17.7	18.0	18.4	18.2

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Kington U.D.	..	11.4
England and Wales	..	*

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Kington U.D.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	31.3
England and Wales	14.8	15.4	15.7	16.3	17.2

\*figure not yet available



INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales.	..	10.8

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	12.5

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	25.4

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Kington U.D.	(Total	Nil	Nil	28.6	68.9	64.5
	(Legitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	80.0	68.9
	(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England & Wales	(Total	18.3	19.0	19.0	19.9	21.1
	(Legitimate	*	*	*	19.4	20.8
	(Illegitimate	*	*	*	26.3	26.0

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	*

#### DEATHS

		Males	Females	Total	
Total number of deaths from all causes:		17	14	31	
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:					
Comparability factor: 0.62	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Kington U.D. (Crude)	16.3	22.1	16.8	14.1	21.3
" " (Adjusted)	10.1	13.7	9.9	9.0	13.6
England and Wales	11.2	11.7	11.5	11.3	12.2

#### Cancer

		Males	Females	Total	
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:		1	1	2	
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:					
	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Kington U.D.	1.05	5.79	1.57	2.09	3.19
England and Wales	*	2.25	2.23	2.20	2.17

\*figures not yet available

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	11	9	20
Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			
	1967	1966	1965 1964 1963
Kington U.D.	10.53	12.10	10.99 8.90 14.89
England and Wales	*	5.97	5.95 5.73 5.22

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:	2	1	3
Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			
	1967	1966	1965 1964 1963
Kington U.D.	1.58	2.10	2.09 1.05 0.53
England and Wales	*	1.60	1.41 1.37 1.71

\*figures not yet available

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	3	7
Coronary disease, angina	1	2	3
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	3	3	6
Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
Bronchitis	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	2	2
Accidents, other than motor vehicle	1	1	2
	17	14	31

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - KINGTON U.D.

Disease	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Measles	17	31	7	27	33
Scarlet Fever	2	-	3	-	1
Dysentery	4	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis:					
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	-	-	-

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE

Whooping Cough	47	37	5	70	29
Measles	314	271	525	609	507
Scarlet Fever	11	29	12	8	12
Erysipelas	2	4	3	2	3
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	-	2	-	-	2
Post-Infectious	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	5	9	3	8	13
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	285	92	6	3	7
Food Poisoning	10	9	8	14	7
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	1	1
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	3	4	8	10	9
Non-Pulmonary	2	3	3	3	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1967

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	8	-	4	5	2	1	-	1	5	2	-	19	47
Measles	74	41	48	27	81	20	17	1	1	-	1	3	314
Scarlet Fever	-	-	4	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Acute Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	5
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	189	49	38	-	2	-	2	3	2	-	-	-	285
Food Poisoning	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	10
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Non-Pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2



TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1966.	7	6	1	-
New cases notified	-	-	-	1
Recovered	2	-	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1967.	5	6	1	1

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1963	-	13	-	-
1964	1	13	-	-
1965	-	13	-	-
1966	1	14	-	-
1967	1	13	-	2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORT

GENERAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTIONS

Whilst (as previously reported last year) duties as Building Surveyor continue to take up more time, it is noteworthy that work in the field (where probably the better practical results are obtained) is exceeded by administration in the office, and 'form filling' for government and other departments proceeds apace: this naturally has an effect upon the amount of time available for purely public health work, although even in this province, paper work multiplies annually. Also, the amount of new information our officials now have to endeavour to assimilate is enormous.

1. WATER SUPPLY

The source of the town's water is a spring at Crooked Well, augmented as necessary from a borehole nearby and from loop mains supplying the circumscribing rural area. Some outlying properties are still supplied from individual private springs and wells.

The quality has remained ample for the needs of the town in general. Chemically, the quality of the water is satisfactory for dietetic purposes.

Results of samples taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for bacteriological examination may be summarised as follows:

	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Mains supply	14	14	Nil
Private supplies	2	1	1

No. of houses supplied from mains  
direct to houses: 662

No. of houses supplied via standpipes: 3

No. of houses supplied by private  
undertaking: 1

No. of houses supplied by wells and  
springs: 8

## 2. DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No. of houses connected to public sewers:	590
No. of houses connected to satisfactory private disposal works:	59
No. of houses using chemical or pail closets with satisfactory disposal:	29
No. of houses using chemical or pail closets with unsatisfactory disposal:	Nil

## 3. COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

A weekly collection of household refuse is undertaken in the urban area, whilst business premises in the town centre have a bi-weekly collection: a side loading vehicle being operated. Collection is by means of direct labour, kerbside collection, a driver/loader and another loader being employed on this work.

Disposal is by controlled tipping on obsolete sewage works contact beds. Some stock-proof fencing was erected in the area.

The estimated life of this tip is a matter of conjecture.

## 4. SWIMMING BATHS

There are two swimming baths: one (outdoor variety) being sited at the Bi-lateral School, whilst the other comprises an indoor (learner type) pool in the Primary School grounds. Both are supplied with water from the treated mains supply, but have their own filtration and treatment plants, regular checks being made by the attendants to ensure a safe chlorine residual.

Two samples of water were taken from each of these pools and proved highly satisfactory upon bacteriological examination.

## 5. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The facilities which exist consist of ladies and gents. conveniences in the Recreation Ground, and another situated in the town centre. These have been found to be adequate for the town's needs.

## 6. RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

One of the Council's employees acts as a rodent operator, part-time.

Regular treatment is undertaken at the Council's refuse tip.



## 7. HOUSING

(a) Some of the older houses in the area appear to be of a somewhat sub-standard character but not necessarily unfit for human habitation. Gradually, the influence of the improvements effected as a result of grants and/or informal action makes itself felt. In some cases it was necessary to impose closing orders, although these may be determined after they have been brought up to the fitness standards consequent upon the issue of improvement grants.

### (b) Private Housing

New dwellings under construction at the  
end of the year:

2

### (c) Council Housing

By the end of the year full approvals of all details in connection with phase 'A' of the Gravel Hill housing scheme had been obtained, and the Council's retained architect had substantially completed the design work with a view to the invitation of tenders early in the new year, probably on a selective basis.

### (d) Tenancies

The Council's 'points' system for the selection of tenants continued to operate satisfactorily during the year.

### (e) Improvement Grants

No applications were received during the course of the year for discretionary grants. Five applications were received in respect of standard grants, and were approved by the Council. The following table indicates the comparative position covering the past four years:

Year:	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
No. of grants approved	5	8	5	3	8

HOUSING (Continued)(f) Slum Clearance and Improvement Condition Survey

Copy of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's completed questionnaire:

GENERAL

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. No. of local authority dwellings<br>(incl. those held for purposes<br>other than housing, e.g. planning,<br>highways, welfare, etc) | 123  |
| 2. No. of pre-1919 dwellings,<br>both local authority and<br>private.  | L.A: Nil<br>Private; say 500   |
| 3. (a) Have you been able to<br>carry out any detailed survey<br>of the stock of older houses<br>in your area ?                        | (Letter sent stating I was<br>new to the area, and had not<br>had an opportunity of making<br>detailed survey) |
| (b) If so, please indicate   |  |
| (i) the period, by dates<br>over which the survey was<br>completed; and  | Believed 1960  |
| (ii) the proportion of<br>property covered by the<br>survey  | Omnibus  |

UNFITNESS

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 4. (a) Estimated No. of existing<br>unfit dwellings                    | 10                 |
| (b) What is the basis of the<br>estimate ?                             | Conjecture         |
| 5. How long will it take to<br>clear the existing unfit<br>dwellings ? | Say, 5 years (min) |
| 6. No. of dwellings becoming<br>unfit annually.                        | - -                |

IMPROVEMENT

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 7. No. of dwellings (excluding those<br>regarded as unfit) improvable to<br>discretionary (12-point) level,<br>i.e. with a life of over thirty years |         |
| (a) Local authority  | - -     |
| (b) Private  | Say, 25 |

HOUSING (Continued)(f) Slum Clearance and Improvement Condition Survey (Continued)

8. No. of dwellings (excluding those regarded as unfit) improvable only to standard grant level i.e. with a life of between fifteen and thirty years.	
(a) Local authority	2
(b) Private	10
9. No. of fit houses lacking the standard amenities with an expected life of at least ten years, but which because their expected life is less than fifteen years would not qualify for improvement grant	None
10. No. of improvable houses in	
(a) declared improvement areas under section 13, Housing Act, 1964	Nil
(b) areas which could be dealt with as improvement areas	Nil
MULTIPLE-OCCUPATION	
11. No. of houses in multiple-occupation	3 (estimated)
12. No. which might need action by your authority	Nil
13. No. in proposed clearance areas	Nil
14. No. in declared improvement areas and in areas which could be dealt with as improvement areas	Nil

8. CARAVAN SITES

Only one caravan site exists and this is maintained in a satisfactory condition: one individual residential caravan is sited thereon.

## 9. FOOD PREMISES AND INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The principal food premises in the town are summarised as follows:

Dairies	1
Slaughterhouse	1
Butchers	3 *
Bakehouses	2
Public Houses	12
Miscellaneous (restaurant kitchens, stores, etc)	21
Total	<u>40</u>

\* one butchers shop closed down.

Inspections made .. 45

Appended is a note of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

Storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream	..	10
Preparation or manufacture of sausage meat	..	4
Total	..	<u>14</u>

Inspections made .. 15

The licence in respect of the small local private slaughterhouse was renewed for a further 12 months, and two slaughtermans' licences renewed (one modified on account of the applicant being under 18 years of age)

### Food Inspections

Miscellaneous small amounts of tinned goods and other articles of food were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption - voluntarily surrendered.

### Meat Inspection

Regular bi-weekly examination of all home-killed food animals are made at the above mentioned slaughterhouse. The details of the number of animals killed and inspected are given on the following page.



Meat Inspections and Condemnations

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	125	Nil	Nil	40	235
<u>All diseases except Tuber- culosis and Cysticerchi</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	7	Nil	Nil	2	10
<u>Tuberculosis and Cysticerchi</u>					
Whole carcasses or part condemned	1 (part)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

10. THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963Tables A. and C. - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Premises registered during the year	Total premises registered at the end of year	Premises receiving general inspection during the year	Number of persons employed
Offices	-	1	-	7
Retail shops	-	5	4	25
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	--	-
Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens	-	-	-	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	6	4	32

Males : 15  
Females: 17

Table B.

Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises: .. 10

11. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPSFactories Act, 1961Inspections

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec.1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	22	16	1	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	19	3	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	1	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	1	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	1	-	-	-



